AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 8 with the following amended paragraph:

The present invention relates to woven or knit fabrics containing polyurethane elastic filaments in combination with other fibers, and to a process for manufacturing such fabrics. More specifically, the invention relates to polyurethane elastic filament-containing blended woven or knit fabrics, including circular knit (e.g., plain, rib, purl) and other types of weft knit fabrics, warp knit fabrics (e.g., chain, denbigh, cord, atlas), and woven fabrics, which minimize the appearance of fabric defects such as deformation, yarn slippage and ~~grinning~~ corrugation from repeated stretching when articles made from such woven or knit fabrics are worn, fraying in which threads are lost from cut edges of the fabric, damage or defects of the type known as laddering or running that arise in the fabric structure, edge curling of the fabric, and the effect sometimes referred to as "slip-in" where just the elastic filaments pull away from a seam in an article that has been cut and sewn, causing the fabric to lose its stretch in places. The invention relates also to a process for manufacturing such fabrics.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 29 with the following amended paragraph:

Articles made from stretch fabrics such as polyurethane elastic filament-containing blended fabrics that have been weft knitted, warp knitted or woven are widely used on account of their high stretch, good recovery from extension, and good fit. However, when an article made by cutting and sewing a polyurethane elastic filament-containing blended fabric is repeatedly stretched, it deforms, causing the fabric to lose its uniformity and making it subject to problems such as deformation, yarn slippage, ~~grinning~~ corrugation, fraying, running and edge curling. In sewn areas, repeated extension also tends to cause polyurethane elastic filaments to pull away from the seams ("slip-in"). In an area of the fabric where such slip-in has occurred and elastic filaments have left from a seam, the loss of shrinkage force tends to give rise to places of uneven density in the fabric, which can render an item of apparel unfit for use.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 11 with the following amended paragraph:

It is therefore an object of the present invention to provide polyurethane elastic filament-containing woven or knit fabrics which are stable and not subject to the loss of elastic filaments and non-elastic yarns used therein from cut and sewn areas of the fabric, and which are thus resistant to yarn slippage, ~~grinning~~ corrugation, fraying, running, edge curling and slip-in.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 20 with the following amended paragraph:

As a result of extensive investigations, we have discovered that when a blended woven or knit fabric which contains highly fusible polyurethane elastic filaments typically obtained by melt-spinning a polymer synthesized from a prepolymer prepared by the reaction of a polyol with a diisocyanate, wherein preferably at least 50 wt% of the starting polyol is a polyether polyol, and which contains also non-elastic yarns is heat-set, heat fusion occurs at places where the polyurethane elastic filaments come into contact with the non-elastic yarns and at places where the polyurethane elastic filaments come into contact with each other, giving a fabric that is resistant to yarn slippage, ~~grinning~~ corrugation, fraying, running, edge curling and slip-in without any loss in tenacity.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 11, line 5 with the following amended paragraph:

Process (3) is preferred because it does not include a polyurethane elastomer chip handling step and is thus simpler than Processes (1) and (2). Also, in this process, by adjusting the proportion of prepolymer added to the reactor, the amount of residual isocyanate groups left in the polyurethane elastic filaments after spinning can be controlled, making it possible to achieve an improved heat resistance from chain extending reactions by these residual isocyanate groups. Moreover, in Process (3), as described in ~~JP-A-11-839030~~ WO99/39030 (corresponding to US 6,252,031), the low-molecular-weight diol can be reacted beforehand with some of the

prepolymer to form a prepolymer having excess hydroxyl groups which is then added to the reactor.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 17, line 35 with the following amended paragraph:

In other commonly used knit structures as well, when the highly fusible polyurethane elastic filaments of the invention are laid in or knit in, the fusion of these filaments with non-elastic yarns and fusion of the polyurethane elastic filaments with each other discourages ~~grinning~~ corrugation (the shifting, loss or loosening of elastic filaments), enabling a substantial and dramatic improvement in the durability of the fabric. Moreover, because the fabric is more stable and edge curling is less likely to occur, costs during sewing operations can be expected to decrease.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 18, line 10 with the following amended paragraph:

For example, in the structures shown in FIGS. 3 to 8, the appropriate use of highly fusible polyurethane elastic filaments enables knit fabrics to be obtained which are resistant to yarn slippage, ~~grinning~~ corrugation, fraying, running, edge curling and slip-in.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 19, line 26 with the following amended paragraph:

The present invention enables polyurethane elastic filament-containing blended woven or knit fabrics to be obtained which can be treated at a low heat setting temperature and are resistant to such effects as yarn slippage, ~~grinning~~ corrugation, fraying, running, edge curling and slip-in.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 29, line 15 with the following amended paragraph:

In Example 5 and 7 according to the invention, the pullout resistance was high due to fusion. In Example 6, fusion was of a degree that the filament could not be pulled out. Hence, fabrics resistant to yarn slippage and ~~grinning~~ corrugation were obtained. Combination with high-melting polyurethane elastic filaments in Comparative Examples 5, 6 and 7 discouraged fusion, resulting in a low pullout resistance. Yarn slippage and ~~grinning~~ corrugation occurred in these latter cases.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 34, line 28 with the following amended paragraph:

Even in chain structures or commonly used structures other than chain structures which contain inserted or knit-in elastic filaments, by using the highly fusible polyurethane elastic filament of the invention, fusion with non-elastic yarns and fusion between polyurethane elastic filaments discourages yarn slippage, ~~grinning~~ corrugation, fraying, running, edge curling and slip-in, thus substantially and dramatically improving the durability of the fabric. Moreover, such fabrics are resistant to fraying and damage at cut edges thereon, even when laundered.